

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENTI 02392 010744Z

20

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 /015 W
----- 114815
R 010715Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7100

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 2392

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, MSG

SUBJECT: COLA FOR MARINE SECURITY GUARD DETACHMENT

REF: SOLITARIO LETTER TO SWEDENBURG DATED AUG. 31, 1976

1. APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL INTEREST AND SUPPORT IN REINSTITUTING COLA FOR OUR MARINES. AS YOU KNOW, THEY NOW RECEIVING ONLY BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTANCE (BAS) AMOUNTING TO \$85.00 MONTHLY. IT IS COSTING THEM \$100 EACH TO MAINTAIN MARINE HOUSE AND MESS WHICH MEANS THAT EACH INTZBOM MARINES ARE OFTEN INVITED OUT HERE AND SOME OCCASIONALLY EAT OUT. WITH CONTRACTION OF EMBASSY, IT LIKELY THAT THEY WILL BE MORE DEPENDENT UPON MARINE HOUSE MESS FOR THEIR MEALS WHICH WILL INCREASE COSTS MORE.

2. PARA FOUR REFLTR STATED DEFENSE WOULD BE WRITING MCSHANE IN THIS REGARD. SINCE DAO OFFICE NOW CLOSED, WE HOPE THAT MATTER WILL NOT DIE ON VINE AND THAT COLA WILL BE ONCE AGAIN AUTHORIZED FOR VIENTIANE MARINES.

3. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF STATUS OF THIS REQUEST.
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